

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

JOINT INVENTORS

As the below named inventors, we hereby declare:

Our residences, post office addresses and citizenship are as stated below next to our names,

We believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled An Aqueous-Liquid-Absorbing Agent and Its Production Process, the specification of which,

☐ is attached hereto

☒ was filed on 03/11/2005 as application Serial No. PCT/JP2005/004858.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above, and

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

Prior Foreign Applications

We hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference. We have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is based.

Country	Application Number	Date of Filing (day, month, year)	Date of Issue (day, month, year)	Priority Claimed Under 35 U.S.C. §119
Japan	2004-105117	03, 31, 2004		Yes

Prior United States Application(s)

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application Serial Number	Date of Filing (day, month, year)

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35 United States Code, § 120 of any United States patent application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, we acknowledge the duty to

disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial Number	Date of Filing (day, month, year)	Status (Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

Power of Attorney

We hereby appoint all of the attorneys associated with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer No. 001609 of the firm of ROYLANCE, ABRAMS, BERDO & GOODMAN, L.L.P. as our attorneys or agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Correspondence and telephone calls are to be directed to:

Garrett V. Davis
 ROYLANCE, ABRAMS, BERDO & GOODMAN, L.L.P.
 1300 19th Street, N.W., Suite 600
 Washington, D.C. 20036
 (202) 659-9076

We hereby declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signature Hiroyuki Ikeuchi Date July 27, 2006

Full Name of
 1st Inventor IKEUCHI Hiroyuki
 Family Name First Given Name Middle Initial

Residence 14-12, Kitahirano Minamino-cho, Himeji-shi, HYOGO 670-0887 JAPAN

Citizenship Japanese

Post Office
 Address same as residence

Signature Kazushi Torii Date July 27, 2006

Full Name of
2nd Inventor TORII Kazushi
Family Name First Given Name Middle Initial

Residence F-202, 931-11, Hamada, Aboshi-ku, Himeji-shi, HYOGO 671-1242 JAPAN

Citizenship Japanese

Post Office
Address same as residence

Signature Shigeru Sakamoto Date July 27, 2006

Full Name of
3rd Inventor SAKAMOTO Shigeru
Family Name First Given Name Middle Initial

Residence 391-10, Shimoyobe, Yobe-ku, Himeji-shi, HYOGO 671-1261 JAPAN

Citizenship Japanese

Post Office
Address same as residence

Signature Taku Iwamura Date July 27, 2006

Full Name of
4th Inventor IWAMURA Taku
Family Name First Given Name Middle Initial

Residence E-103, 931-11, Hamada, Aboshi-ku, Himeji-shi, HYOGO 671-1242 JAPAN

Citizenship Japanese

Post Office
Address same as residence

Signature Sayaka Machida Date July 27, 2006

Full Name of
5th Inventor MACHIDA Sayaka
Family Name First Given Name Middle Initial

Residence 202, 1-1, Honnmachi, Hirohata-ku, Himeji-shi, HYOGO 671-1114 JAPAN

Citizenship Japanese

Post Office
Address same as residence